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Shorter Notice

The Old Grey Mouse: Graignamanagh Remembered (Seán Swayne. The Abbey Centre, Graignamanagh, Co. Kilkenny. Pp 132. Price £10) is proffered as a modest addition to the already well documented history of this little Kilkenny parish. The title comes from Seán Ó Faoláin, who was a frequent visitor to Graignamanagh and to the clebrated Duiske Abbey. Ó Faoláin wrote: 'The whole village is like an old grey mouse crouching over the little rivulet of the Duiske as it enters the Barrow' (*The Bell*, May 1945). Graignamanagh is a beautiful place. Set on the river Barrow and surrounded by hills, it is off the beaten tourist track and those who know about it try to keep it to themselves! However, Duiske Abbey, the heart of Graignamanagh, is rightly the pride and joy of its inhabitants whose history is woven with its history. This book brings together a wealth of archival material and everyone with Graignamanagh connections is bound to find some relation somewhere in the many photographs – over 300 of them! Great credit is due to Monsignor Swayne (and to various members of his family!) for producing this lovely book which is an ideal Christmas gift for those who are not lucky enough to live in Graignamanagh any more.